Carrefour pledges to support a new economic model for resources
and unveils its ambition:

100% reusable, recyclable or compostable packaging

As part of its aim to become the word leader in the food transition for everyone, Carrefour is committing to promote packaging solutions that are more environmentally-friendly. Carrefour’s plan to reinvent packaging and move from a take, make and dispose model to a circular model will stretch from 2018 to 2025 and is designed as follows.

Carrefour’s Packaging Plan

1) The right amount of packaging: Carrefour is committed to reducing the use of plastic packaging, especially hard-to-recycle plastics, and to do developing reusable solutions for customers.

2) Fully recyclable packaging: the Group guarantees that 100% of Carrefour products will be eligible to be recycled or composted by 2025. Non-recyclable plastics will gradually be replaced by alternative materials.

3) Facilitate proper recycling: the Group will provide its client with solutions to help make recycling easier, in particular in those countries where collection systems are not fully developed.

4) Carrefour will recycle all materials used in its hypermarkets for transportation, warehousing and delivery.

5) Carrefour supports the emergence of a new economic model for resources: In order for recycling to become standard practice, Carrefour will accelerate the economic viability of recycled materials by favoring them whenever they are available and accessible. Carrefour will initiate this process by incorporating 50% of recycled plastic in its juice, soda and water bottles.

6) Plastic-free oceans: In order to protect marine biodiversity, the Group will stop selling those plastic products which are the most commonly found in the ocean and will also take an active role in removing plastics from natural habitats.
The Keys to Success

An ambitious goal requiring collective action: Carrefour will support and advocate for the launch of a National Pact to create a 100% circular economy for packaging in France. Creating a new economic model for packaging and eradicating plastic waste is a considerable challenge that requires collective action. In line with the Circular Economy Roadmap led by the Ministry for Environmental and Sustainable Transition (Ministère de la transition écologique et solidaire), Carrefour supports the creation of a National Pact for plastics gathering government, civil society and all voluntary industrial and retail companies.

An economic rationale: Carrefour is in favor of making recycled materials economically competitive through the creation of a new carbon market dedicated to recycled materials or through tax credits. Recycling will become standard practice when its environmental benefits are correctly valued. Based on the current model for energy transition, the resource transition model must re-establish the competitiveness of recyclable and recycled materials.

Innovation: Through its policies and along with its suppliers, Carrefour will encourage research and development into phasing out the massive use of conventional plastics. The Group commits to working with the entire value chain to ensure that all packaging can be reused, recycled or composted. Based on the environmental impact of its own plastic use, Carrefour will develop an innovative eco-design platform dedicated to improving packaging and shifting towards a circular economy.

Supporting suppliers through long-term contracts: Carrefour will guarantee its suppliers enough visibility and contractual certainty to make the necessary investments in new production equipment to produce more sustainable and eco-friendly packaging.
The first measures in France

The right amount of packaging

- Remove non-recyclable plastic packaging from organic fruit and vegetables before 2025
- Offer customers the choice of reusable packaging for fresh products (bakery, meat and fish, deli): tests underway in some stores by year-end 2018
- Remove unnecessary packaging for customers, beginning with the cardboard packaging around toothpaste tubes

Fully recyclable packaging

- All Carrefour BIO product packaging will be recyclable by 2020
- Replace polystyrene trays by 100% translucent PET trays for fresh products and fast-moving consumer goods
- Since 2017, all cardboard packaging for Carrefour brand food products are printed with vegetal-based ink (over 4,000 products)
- Replace plastic trays by cardboard trays for all frozen ready-made meals

Carrefour supports the emergence of a new economic model for resources

- Incorporate at least 50% of recycled plastic in Carrefour brand juice, soda and water bottles by 2022
- Make plastic films around Carrefour brand milk and water packs out of recycled plastic

Plastic-free oceans

- Phase out the sale of plastic straws by the end of 2018 and remove single use plastic straws from juice boxes